

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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For More Information, Contact: Renae Sisk, State School Nurse Consultant North Dakota Department of Health

Phone: 701.328.4526 E-mail: rsisk@nd.gov

## North Dakota Department of Health Recognizes National School Nurse Day

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health is recognizing the important role that school nurses play in children's lives during National School Nurse Day on May 6, 2015.

Every parent wants the peace of mind of knowing their child is going to be safe and taken care of at school. School nurses, working in collaboration with teachers, administrators and professional support staff, help to create a healthy learning environment for every child. Given that today's children face more chronic health illnesses like asthma, allergies, diabetes and seizure disorders than ever before, school nurses take their role very seriously. The unique knowledge base, assessment skills and critical thinking ability that school nurses have ensure that quality health care is being provided to children.

"School nurses take on a variety of roles," said Renae Sisk, State School Nurse Consultant for the North Dakota Department of Health. "They are educators, advocates and care givers for the students they serve. Whether it's developing a medical care plan for a child with diabetes, educating a classroom on proper hand washing skills, communicating with health care providers about a child with special health care needs, or cleansing and bandaging a wound, a school nurse's job is never done."

Healthy students are better learners; therefore, it makes sense to support programs and services, such as school nursing, that seek to improve the health and well-being of our children. School nurses can and do make a difference.

For more information, contact Renae Sisk, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.4526.

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600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 301, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0200 Phone: 701.328.2372 Fax: 701.328.4727 E-mail: <a href="health@state.nd.us">health@state.nd.us</a>